

Akathist to St. John Maximovitch



For orphans and children in need

Kontakion 1

Chosen wonderworker and superb servant of Christ, who pours out in the latter times inexhaustible streams of inspiration and multitude of miracles. We praise You with love, and call out to You:

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Ikos 1

An angel in the flesh You were manifested in the latter times by the grace of God Who cares for men. Seeing the beauty of Your virtues, we Your children now cry out to You:

Rejoice, You live in virtue from earliest childhood.

Rejoice, You always live in fear of God and do His holy will.

Rejoice, You manifest the grace of God in numberless virtues.

Rejoice, You mystically hear the distant prayers of those in distress.

Rejoice, You were filled with love for Your fellow men and did all that was possible for their salvation.

Rejoice, You bring joy to all who pray to You in faith and love.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 2

Seeing the abundance and variety of Your virtues. O holy Hierarch, we see in You a living source of God's wonders in our time. You refresh with Your love and miracles all who cry in faith to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 2

Being filled with love, You were also filled with theology. O holy Father. And in You the knowledge of God flowed forth again in love for suffering men. You teach us also to know the true God in love as we call out to You in admiration:

Rejoice, firm stronghold of Orthodox truth.
Rejoice, precious vessel of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
Rejoice, righteous accuser of impiety and false doctrine.
Rejoice, ardent doer of the commandments of God.
Rejoice, severe ascetic who gave yourself no repose.
Rejoice, loving shepherd of the flock of Christ.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 3

By God's mercy You were manifested as a father to orphans and instructor of the young, raising them in the fear of God and preparing them for the service of God. Therefore, all Your children look to You with love and cry out with gratitude to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 3

Dwellers in heaven should be praising You and not we on earth, for our words are feeble beside Your deeds. Yet offering to God what we have, we cry out to You:

Rejoice, You protected Your children by Your constant prayer.
Rejoice, You guarded Your flock by the sign of the Cross.
Rejoice, Your love knew no bounds of country or race.
Rejoice, bright luminary beloved by all.
Rejoice, model of spiritual meekness.
Rejoice, giver of spiritual consolation to those in need.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 4

Bewildered by Your deeds of piety and love, we know not how to praise You worthily, O Hierarch John. You traveled to the ends of the earth to save Your people and preach the gospel to those in darkness. Thanking God for Your apostolic labors, we cry out to Him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 4

The people of many lands beheld Your life and marveled at God's mercies even in these latter times. And so we also, marveling, cry out in awe:

Rejoice, enlightener of those in the darkness of unbelief.
Rejoice, You followed Your people to the farthest East and West.
Rejoice, fountain of miracles poured out by God.
Rejoice, loving chastiser of those who have gone astray.
Rejoice, speedy comfort to those who repent of their sins.
Rejoice, support of those who are on the right path.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 5

You were manifested as a vehicle of God's power to stop the destructive forces of fallen nature, O holy Hierarch, preserving Your people on the island from the deadly wind and storm by Your prayer and the sign of the Cross, so preserve us also who cry out in wonder to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 5

All who have trusted in your help in desperate circumstances and adversities have found deliverance, O Bold Intercessor before the Throne of God. Therefore, we too place our hope in You to protect us in dangers by Your prayers before God as we call out to You:

Rejoice, You stopped the powers of nature from doing harm to Your flock.
Rejoice, You provided by Your prayer for all in need.
Rejoice, inexhaustible bread for the hungry.
Rejoice, abundant wealth for those who live in poverty.
Rejoice, consolation for those in sorrow.
Rejoice, quick lifter for those who have fallen.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 6

You were manifested as a new Moses, leading his flock out of slavery, O Hierarch John. Deliver us also from slavery to sins and the enemies of God, as we cry out to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 6

You did the impossible and persuaded the authorities of this world to have pity on your flock, O Good Shepherd. Pray for us now that we may live in peace and quiet, saving our souls as we gratefully cry to You:

Rejoice, helper of all who call upon You in faith.
Rejoice, You deliver from death and disaster.
Rejoice, You preserve from lies and slander.
Rejoice, preserver of the innocent from bonds.
Rejoice, You foil the attacks of the unrighteous.
Rejoice, destroyer of lies and exalter of truth.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 7

O lover of the saints of East and West, You restore to the Orthodox Church the saints of the West, of lands which had fallen away from the truth. Now with these saints, pray for us to God as we on earth cry out to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 7

O fervent venerator of the holy Hierarchs of Gaul, You were manifested in the latter times as one of them, exhorting Your flock to preserve the same Orthodox faith they confessed, and astonishing the peoples of the West by Your holy life. Now preserve us in that same faith as we cry out to You:

Rejoice, new Martin by Your miracles and ascetic feats.
Rejoice, new Germanus by Your confession of the Orthodox faith.
Rejoice, new Hilary by Your divine theology.
Rejoice, new Gregory by Your love for God's saints.
Rejoice, new Faustus by Your gentle love and monastic fervor.
Rejoice, new Caesarius by Your firm yet loving rule of the Church of

God.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 8

At the end of Your life, O holy Hierarch, You were called to the New World, to offer Your witness of ancient Christianity and to suffer persecution for Your righteousness, thus perfecting Your soul for Heaven. Now marveling at Your patience and long-suffering, we all cry out to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 8

O laborer of Christ's vineyard who knew no rest even at the end of Your much-toiling life, help us now in our labors as we strive to be faithful to Christ, crying out in praise to You:

Rejoice, You endured to the end and so attained salvation.

Rejoice, You were deemed worthy to die before the icon the Mother of God.

Rejoice, You kept Your faith and courage in the midst of unjust persecution.

Rejoice, You labored to the end for Your flock and met death sitting as a hierarch.

Rejoice, You returned through the air to be buried amid the flock.

Rejoice, You work wonders for those who come to Your sepulcher with faith and love.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 9

All Angels rejoiced at Your soul's ascent to their celestial home marveling at the wonders You performed on earth through the action of the Holy Spirit. to whom we sing: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 9

Orators find it impossible to describe Your life of sanctity with their many and eloquent words, O righteous John, for You became a living house for the power of the ineffable God. Yet, unable to fall silent at the wonder shown to our age of feeble faith, we glorify You:

Rejoice, divine palace where the counsel of the Good King is given.
Rejoice, small and humble abode containing the spacious beauty of angels' mansions.

Rejoice, You gained a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Rejoice, infirmary wherein all manner of diseases are divinely healed.

Rejoice, closet wherein Your holy labor of prayer was hidden.

Rejoice, blessed temple of the Holy Spirit.

Rejoice O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 10

Wishing to save the world, the Savior of all has sent a new saint among us and through him has called us out of the dark recesses of sin. Hearing this call to repentance, the unworthy ones in turn cry out to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 10

You are a wall sheltering us from adversity, O Hierarch John, for through Your heavenly intercessions we are delivered from the attacks of demonic passions and from afflictions which beset us on earth. Before Your firm support of prayer, we cry with faith:

Rejoice, sight to the blind.

Rejoice, strength and life to those on the bed of death.

Rejoice, God-revealed advice to those in doubt and confusion.

Rejoice, refreshing water to those perishing in the heat of sorrow.

Rejoice, loving father to the lonely and abandoned.

Rejoice, holy teacher of those who seek the Truth.

Rejoice, O Holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 11

Your life was a hymn to the Most Holy Trinity, surpassing others in thought, word and deed, O most blessed John. For with much wisdom You explained the precepts of the true Faith, teaching us to sing with faith, hope and love to the one God in Trinity: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 11

We see You as a radiant lamp of Orthodoxy amid the darkness of ignorance, O God-Chosen Pastor of Christ's flock, our Father John. For even after Your repose You speak the truth to the ignorant and give instruction to those who seek guidance to all who cry to You:

Rejoice, radiance of divine wisdom to those in ignorance.

Rejoice, rainbow of quiet joys for the meek.

Rejoice, thunder to stubborn sinners.

Rejoice, lightning of the zeal of God.

Rejoice, rain of God's dogmas.

Rejoice, shower of theological thoughts.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 12

Grace has been poured out in the last days upon us all. Beholding this grace come forth from a holy Hierarch who once walked among us, let us receive it with reverence and thanksgiving, crying to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 12

Singing in praise to God, the heavenly choir of saints rejoices that He has not forsaken the fallen and unbelieving world, but has manifested His almighty power in You, His meek and humble servant. O blessed John, with all the saints we greet You and give honor to You:

Rejoice, new star of righteousness shining in heaven's firmament.
Rejoice, new prophet who was sent before the final unleashing of evil.
Rejoice, new Jonah warning all of the wages of sin.
Rejoice, new Baptist drawing all to a life of prayer and repentance.
Rejoice, new Paul suffering to preach the gospel in the spirit of Truth.
Rejoice, new apostle whose miracles instill in us faith and awe.

Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

Kontakion 13

(To be read three times)

O Holy and Most Wondrous Hierarch John, consolation for all the sorrowing, accept now our prayerful offering that through Your prayers to our Lord we may be spared gehenna and by Your God-pleasing intercession we may cry eternally:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)

Ikos 1

An angel in the flesh were You manifested in the latter times by the grace of God Who cares for men. Seeing the beauty of Your virtues, we Your children now cry out to You:

Rejoice, You live in virtue from earliest childhood.
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Kontakion 1

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Rejoice, O holy Hierarch John, wonderworker of the latter times.

*PRAYER to our Holy and God-bearing Father,
Hierarch John Maximovitch the New,
Wonderworker of Shanghai and Western America*

O beloved Hierarch John, while living among us you see the future as if present, distant things as if near, the hearts and minds of men as if they were Your own.

We know that in this You were illumined by God, with Whom You were ever in the mystical communion of prayer, and with Whom You now abide eternally.

As You once heard the mental petitions of Your far-scattered flock even before they could speak to You, so now hear our prayers and bring them before the Lord.

You have gone over into the life unaging, into the other world, yet You are in truth not far from us, for heaven is closer to us than our own souls.

Show us who feel frightened and alone the same compassion that You once showed to the trembling fatherless ones.

Give to us who have fallen into sin, confusion and despair the same stern yet loving instruction that You once gave to Your chosen flock.

In You we see the living likeness of our Maker, the living spirit of the Gospel and the foundation of our Faith. In the pure life that You have led during our sinful times, we see a model of virtue, a source of instruction and inspiration.

Beholding the grace bestowed upon You, we know that God has not abandoned His people. It is rather that we have fallen from Him, and so must regain the likeness of

Divinity as You have done. Through Your intercession, O Blessed One, grant that we may increase our striving toward our heavenly homeland, setting our affections on things above, laboring in prayer and virtue, waging war against the attacks of our fallen nature.

Invoke the mercy of God, that we may one day join You in His Kingdom.

For our deepest wish is to live forever with Him, with the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Glorifying God Through His Light
50 Hour Prayer Vigil

Orthodox Mission Church
Serving Coolidge and Florence, AZ
Prayer from akathistreconstructed.wordpress.com
Prepared, edited, and provided by the 50 Hour Prayer Committee
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